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AUG - 2 2002  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

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## PROCESS FOR FORMING TUBE-SHAPED HOLLOW BODIES MADE OF METAL

## 10 ABSTRACT

[0024] A process for forming tube-shaped hollow bodies made of metal, particularly made of aluminum, is described. After forming a slab-shaped semifinished product into a closed cross-sectional profile and straight seam welding the  
15 opposing edges of the semifinished product, the tube-shaped hollow body is first mechanically partially expanded and/or mechanically partially reduced in an upstream processing phase. It is then soft annealed and finally hydroformed in a die by a medium introduced into the hollow body.